

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated February 7, 2005. Claims 1 to 57 are pending in the application, of which Claims 1, 12, 19, 29, 36 to 38, 45, 47 to 49 and 56 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 57 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,768,483 (Maniwa). Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Turning to specific claim language, amended independent Claim 1 is directed to an information processing apparatus which is connected to an image input device and image output device which includes an input control unit adapted to control an image input process by the image input device, an output control unit adapted to control an image output process by the image output device, a storage unit adapted to store information of any one of a plurality of input setups and any one of a plurality of output setups, wherein the information corresponds to each of a plurality of image processing modes, and an acquisition unit adapted to acquire the information of an input setup and an output setup corresponding to the image processing mode selected by an operator from the storage unit. The input control unit controls the image input process of the image input device on the basis of the information of the input setup acquired by the acquisition unit, and the output control unit controls the image output process of the image output device on the basis of the information of the output setup acquired by the acquisition unit.

Accordingly, an information processing apparatus in accordance with Claim 1 includes the feature of being connected to an image input device and an image output device. The image input device is controlled based on information of a plurality of input setups and the image output device is controlled based on information of a plurality of output setups. The information processing apparatus has a storage unit for storing information of any one of a plurality of input setups and any one of a plurality of output setups, wherein the information corresponds to each of a plurality of image processing modes.

As an example, Fig. 5 of the present application illustrates a copy operation having a "photo" image processing mode. The information "color 360 x 360 dpi" corresponds to the information of an input setup while "360 x 360 dpi" and "high-quality exclusive paper" correspond to the information of an output setup. In accordance with the present invention, an information processing apparatus acquires the information of an input setup and output setup corresponding to the image processing mode selected by an operator and controls an image input device and an image output device based on the acquired information. That is, the operator of the information processing apparatus can control image input processing and image output processing by selecting the image processing mode without respectively selecting information of an input setup and an output setup corresponding to a image processing mode.

In contrast, Maniwa discloses a network system in which a client computer (WS) 103 and a digital copier system 102 are connected via a network 101. The digital copier system 102 has scanner 110a to scan an image. The scanning settings (document size, resolution, contrast and so on) of the scanner 110a are transmitted to the digital copier

system 102 via a fileserver 104. The operator can then select the scanning condition from operation panel 111 of the digital copier system 102.

The digital copier system 102 also has a printer 110b to print an image. The client computer (WS) 103 transmits a print job with the print settings (passage of paper, finishing and so on) to the digital copier system 102 via the fileserver 104 and the printer 110b executes the print job based on the print settings.

However, Maniwa fails to disclose storing information of any one of a plurality of input setups and any one of a plurality of output setups, wherein the information corresponds to each of a plurality of image processing modes. That is, Maniwa discloses a conventional system wherein the operator is responsible for management of the interface between separate input and output devices as the fileserver of Maniwa is incapable of managing the information for a plurality of image processing modes as it relates to both input and output setups for different input and output devices.

In light of the foregoing described deficiencies of the cited reference, Applicant submits that amended independent Claim 1 is now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

Amended independent Claims 19, 36 and 47 are directed to a method, computer readable storage medium, and a computer program, respectively, substantially in accordance with amended independent Claim 1. As such, Applicant submits that amended independent Claims 19, 36 and 47 are also in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

Turning now to amended independent Claim 12, Claim 12 as amended is directed to an information processing apparatus which is connected to an image input device and image output device. The information processing apparatus includes a generation unit adapted to generate a plurality of image processing modes from information of a plurality of input setups for controlling the image input device, and information of a plurality of output setups for controlling the image output device, storage unit adapted to store the information of any one of the plurality of input setups and the information of any one of the plurality of output setups, wherein the information corresponds to each of the plurality of image processing modes, and a display unit adapted to display each of the plurality of image processing modes stored in said storage unit such that an operator can select any one of the plurality of the image processing modes.

Therefore, an information processing apparatus in accordance with amended Claim 12 is connected to an image input device and an image output device. The image input device is controlled based on information of a plurality of input setups, and the image output device is controlled based on information of a plurality of output setups. The information processing apparatus has a storage unit for storing information of any one of a plurality of input setups and any one of a plurality of output setups, wherein the information corresponds to each of a plurality of image processing modes. In addition, the information processing apparatus has a display unit for displaying the plurality of image processing modes such that an operator can select any one of the image processing modes. That is, the operator of the information processing apparatus can control image input processing and image output processing by only selecting the image processing mode

without respectively selecting information of an input setup and output setup corresponding to a copy purpose.

In contrast, Maniwa, fails to disclose storing information of any one of a plurality of input setups and any one of a plurality of output setups wherein the information corresponds to each of a plurality of image processing modes. Therefore, Maniwa cannot disclose displaying such information as image processing modes selectable by an operator.

In light of the foregoing described deficiencies of the cited reference, Applicant submits that amended independent Claim 12 is now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

Amended independent Claims 29, 37 and 48 are directed to a method, computer readable storage medium, and a computer program, respectively, substantially in accordance with amended independent Claim 12. As such, Applicant submits that amended independent Claims 29, 37 and 48 are also in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

Amended independent Claim 38 is directed to a computer readable memory which stores a program code of an image processing method which is implemented using a scanner driver and printer driver in a host computer which is connected to a scanner and a printer. The program code includes a copy control code for controlling the scanner driver for controlling a scanning process of the scanner and printer driver for controlling a printing process of the printer, and controlling a user interface which is used for a copy operation and displaying copy information, and a shared information storing code for storing, in a memory, information which is shared and used among the scanner driver, the printer driver, and the copy control code, wherein the shared information storing code

stores information of a plurality of scan setups and a plurality of print setups as copy modes, and wherein the copy control code acquires information of a scan setup and print setup corresponding to a copy mode selected by an operator from the memory, the information of scan setup is passed to the scanner driver and the information of print setup is passed to the printer driver.

Therefore, the computer readable memory stores a program code of an image processing method which is implemented using a scanner driver and printer driver in a host computer which is connected to a scanner and a printer. The computer readable memory has a copy control code for controlling the scanner driver and the printer driver and the copy control code acquires information of a scan setup and print setup corresponding to a copy mode selected by an operator from the memory. The information of scan setup is passed to the scanner driver and the information of print setup is passed to the printer driver. That is, the operator of the host computer can pass information of a scan setup and print setup to the scanner driver and printer driver by only selecting a copy mode without respectively selecting information of an input setup and output setup corresponding to a copy purpose.

However, Maniwa does not disclose passing the information of the scan setup and print setup according to the copy mode selected by the operator to the scanner driver and printer driver is not disclosed. Therefore, the system of Maniwa does not allow an operator of the host computer can pass information of a scan setup and print setup to the scanner driver and printer driver by only selecting a copy mode without respectively selecting information of an input setup and output setup corresponding to a copy purpose.

In light of the foregoing described deficiencies of the cited reference, Applicant submits that amended independent Claim 38 is now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

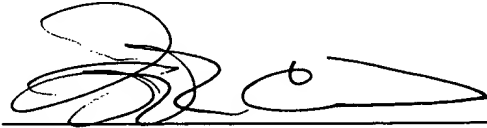
Amended independent Claim 49 is directed to a program code for implementing an image processing method corresponding with amended independent Claim 38. As such, Applicant submits that amended independent Claim 49 is also in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

The other pending claims in this application are each dependent from the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed allowable for the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frank L. Cire', written over a horizontal line.

Frank L. Cire
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 42,419

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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